FOCUSING ON **SUSTAINABILITY**

ANNUAL REPORT

TORONTO AND REGION
Conservation
for The Living City

Our Vision

The quality of life on earth is being determined in rapidly expanding city regions. Our vision is for a new kind of community — The Living City — where human settlement can flourish forever as part of nature's beauty and diversity.

Our Mission

Our mission is to work with our partners to ensure that The Living City is built upon a natural foundation of healthy rivers and shorelines, greenspace and biodiversity and sustainable communities.

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A Sustainable Perspective

Message from the Chair

The Living City is about making the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) one of the most sustainable, livable city regions in the world. It is a vision which recognizes that cities benefit from, and contribute to, a healthy natural ecosystem.

For Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA), working within a sustainability framework means recognizing the interdependence of all the elements that make The Living City — healthy rivers and shorelines, regional biodiversity, sustainable communities and business excellence. Sustainable communities contain clean water, abundant greenspaces and a diversity of plants and animals. They also support the economic and social needs of their residents and businesses.

We wish to extend a sincere thank you to our members, municipal politicians and their staff, our community task forces and alliances, The Conservation Foundation and our dedicated staff for their help in making 2002 such a success. As you review our many achievements, I encourage you to view them from a sustainable perspective. Together we are enriching the human and natural communities in our region.

Dick O'Brien

2002 HIGHLIGHTS

- Supported Source Protection Planning
- Released Two Major Watershed Strategies
- Helped Secure $25 Million for Waterfront Parks
- Began Two Major Lower Don Environmental Assessments
- Supported Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan Implementation
- Secured 180 Hectares of Environmentally Sensitive Land

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Walking the Talk

Message from the CAO

2002 was a remarkable year in our progress towards sustainability — both in our role serving our region and in our growth as an organization. We identified "sustainable communities" as a primary objective of TRCA's work and began integrating these principles into our watershed plans and education programs. We formed new partnerships and reinforced existing ones with others who are thinking about, and acting for, sustainable communities, locally and internationally. We provided advice to the Provincial Smart Growth Panel and the National Urban Strategy. We participated in the City of Toronto's Sustainability Roundtable and developed and tested our vision of the future Living City Centre as a sustainability campus with the surrounding community. TRCA joined thousands of organizations and individuals by endorsing the Earth Charter, a declaration of the fundamental principles to create a just, sustainable and peaceful society. In June we hosted an International Cities as Sustainable Ecosystems conference, and in August we participated in the local government sessions at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa.

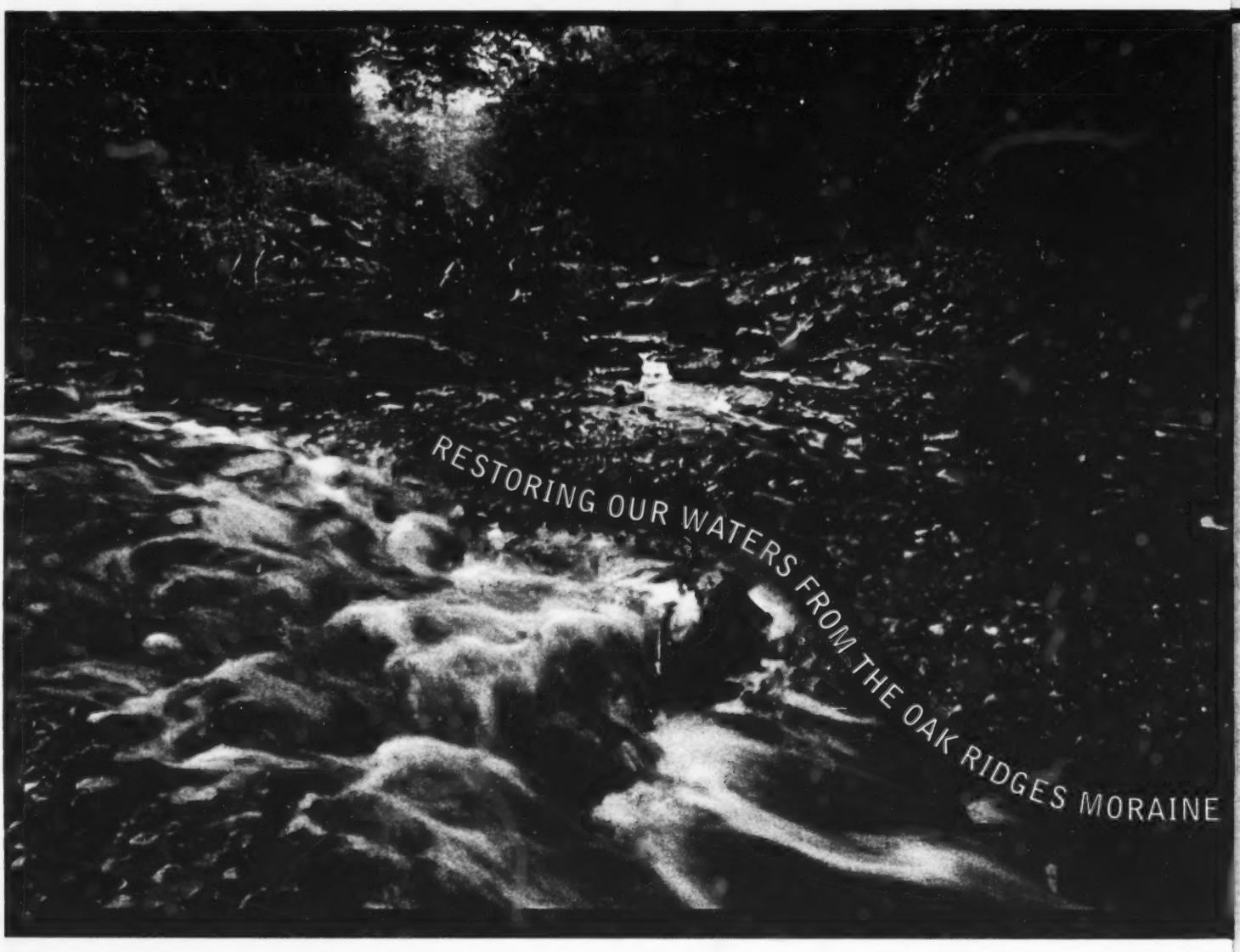
Internally we developed corporate programs to foster a culture of sustainability among our employees and to develop an Environmental Management System. TRCA is committed to continually converting its facilities, operations and policies to reflect sustainability in every way. Core initiatives in 2002 included greening our head office, setting targets and protocols for energy, waste and water use, committing to increase our use of "green" electricity at all of our facilities, purchasing our first hybrid gas-electric car, launching an Employee Energy Efficiency Program and leading a consortium on Green Roof Systems.

We are committed to being an effective voice for sustainable thinking and action. The future health of our organization, our communities and our region is dependent on making more sustainable choices.

Craig Mather

2002 HIGHLIGHTS

- Planted Over 160,000 Native Trees and Shrubs
- Completed a State of the Terrestrial Ecosystem Report
- Launched Volunteer Natural Heritage Monitoring Program
- Worked with Communities on 25 Community Action Sites
- Adapted UNESCO Teaching Program for a Sustainable Future
- Expanded Nature Outreach Programs



Above: *Wilket Creek, Don River.*

Healthy Rivers and Shorelines

HROUGHOUT OUR NINE WATERSHEDS, TO THE LAKE ONTARIO WATERFRONT.

2002 Overview

TRCA provided significant input into the Source Protection Planning Framework for Ontario and made considerable progress on groundwater protection planning and the development of water management programs for our watersheds. Major achievements included the publication of revitalization strategies for the Etobicoke and Mimico Creeks, and the Duffins Creek and Carruthers Creek State of the Watershed Reports. Both included objectives, measures and actions for developing sustainable, livable communities to help direct future growth.

We launched two major Environmental Assessments to help provide flood protection and to naturalize the Lower Don River. Our participation in the process to revitalize the waterfront included securing major funding for Port Union and Mimico Waterfront Linear Park development. A management plan was created for Cold Creek Conservation Area and we began the Highland Creek Stewardship Program. Local communities are now participating in 25 Community Action Sites across our nine watersheds.

Left to right: *Duffins Creek; Portlands (bot.); tree planting (top); Cold Creek Conservation Area; Don Valley Brick Works wetland.*

Don and Highland Watersheds

Planning Lower Don Regeneration

TRCA launched two major Environmental Assessments on behalf of the Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation. The first will determine how to protect over 210 hectares of downtown Toronto from flooding west of the Lower Don River. The second will evaluate how to transform contaminated industrial lands along the mouth of the Don River into 20 hectares of naturalized wetlands, how to naturalize the Don Narrows and remove over 230 hectares of the Portlands and Ashbridge's Bay area from the Floodplain.

Continuing Regeneration in the West Don

TRCA, in partnership with the Vaughan Chamber of Commerce, the City of Vaughan and the Langstaff Eco-Park Steering Committee, received a five year $280,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to support continued regeneration and community outreach along the Bartley Smith Greenway. Achievements in 2002 included the planting of 1,500 native trees and shrubs by the community.

Increasing Highland Creek Stewardship

Funding from Environment Canada's Eco-Action Program supported community outreach and multicultural involvement

in stewardship programs throughout the Highland Creek Watershed. Financial support was also provided by the Community Resource Centre of Scarborough, Public Spaces and T.R.E.E.S.

Habitat Regeneration in Toronto, Richmond Hill and Markham

Achievements this year included aquatic plantings at the Don Valley Brick Works in Toronto, riparian plantings along Little German Mills Creek in Richmond Hill and plantings at Settlers Park in Markham. Designs were also completed in 2002 for the mitigation of three in-stream fish barriers.

Humber Watershed

Restoration and Stewardship Achievements

Achievements at existing Community Action Sites in Palgrave, Bolton, Claireville and Granger Greenway included planting over 16,800 trees and shrubs and 1,500 wildflowers, construction of one hectare of wetland and 500 metres of trail and interpretive signage. A new West Humber Discovery Walk was completed in partnership with the Humber Arboretum and the City of Toronto.

New Community Action Sites Startup

Work on new Community Action Sites at Rexdale Park, Eglinton Flats, West Humber Park, Humberwood Park and Eaton Hall included planting 5,700 trees and shrubs, installing wood duck and song bird nesting boxes and introducing purple loosestrife control methods. Other accomplishments included the construction of a .05 hectare wetland and 300 metres of trail at Rexdale Park.

Completed Cold Creek Management Plan

In partnership with a Community Advocacy Committee, staff completed a management plan for the 180 hectare Cold Creek Conservation Area. This included the first-time application of TRCA's Terrestrial Natural Heritage approach in our conservation areas.

Engaging the Community

Two thousand five hundred volunteers participated in various stewardship activities including 117,000 square metres of stream clean-up in various reaches of the river through the new Humber Stream Watch Program. TRCA initiated work on an Urban Agricultural Project for a 2.4 hectare TRCA property located within the Jane and Finch community. Other achievements included planning for river crossing signage and for the first ever Canadian Rivers Day. New environmental management partnerships were developed with Seneca College, Humber College and Trout Unlimited.

Duffins and Carruthers Creek Watersheds

State of the Watershed Reports Released

TRCA released the Duffins Creek and Carruthers Creek State of the Watershed Reports assessing current watershed conditions and issues. These two reports have been prepared as key reference documents for watershed decision makers and are available by chapter on the TRCA Web site.

Completing the Watershed Plan

A Watershed Plan for Duffins Creek and Carruthers Creek was substantially completed in 2002 with the finalization of the supporting technical studies early in 2003. Technical studies supporting the watershed plan include the Groundwater Assessment Plan, Fisheries Management Plan, Hydrology Report, Wet and Dry Weather Quality Modelling, Water Budget and Agricultural Non-point Source Modelling.

Plan Development for Greenwood

As part of our ongoing Conservation Land Planning exercise, TRCA and the Town of Ajax initiated a management plan process for the Greenwood Conservation Area with input from residents, current users and key interest groups. Once completed, this management plan will guide future uses on these lands which are owned by TRCA and managed by the Town of Ajax.

Etobicoke and Mimico Creeks

Watershed Management Strategy Launched

Greening our Watersheds, a 25-year Revitalization Plan and the first report card for the Etobicoke and Mimico Creeks,

was successfully launched and the Etobicoke and Mimico Creek Watersheds Coalition, a partnership of community stakeholders, was established to implement this management strategy.

Community Action Sites and Stewardship

Over 6,200 people helped plant 2,561 native trees, shrubs, sand dune species and 2,500 aquatic plants in the Etobicoke and Mimico Creek watersheds, contributing to "greening" the Heart Lake, South Mimico and Malton Community Action Sites. The Peel Children's Water Festival at Heart Lake Conservation Area was a great success, attracting over 5,500 participants.

Progress on Plans and Studies

Work continued on the Natural Heritage Strategy, Altered Creeks Study, spills study, continuous flow simulation model, low-flow monitoring program and water budgets. Data was collected in the Upper Etobicoke Creek through the Regional Watershed Monitoring Program to support subwatershed planning efforts. Completed work included draft Fisheries Management Plans for the two watersheds, a Fluvial Geomorphology Study for Etobicoke Creek and the draft Brampton Stormwater Retrofit Study.

Rouge Watershed

As a member of the Rouge Park Alliance, TRCA works closely with members to protect the land and water that support this major natural feature.

Participated in Land Strategy Development

TRCA staff and the Rouge Park Alliance Chair participated in Transport Canada's Greenspace Stewardship Advisory Committee for federal lands located on the Oak Ridges Moraine and in Rouge Park.

Expanding Rouge Park

To expand the park, culturally and ecologically significant properties were acquired in Pickering, Toronto and Markham valued at over $3.5 million.

Completed Environmental Farm Plans

Staff worked with agricultural landowners to complete Environmental Farm Plans for tenant farms south of Steeles Avenue.

Restoring Habitats and Water Quality

Restoration work valued at close to $900,000 was completed in the watershed including riparian and upland vegetation plantings to link existing forest habitats and in-stream restoration on various watercourses.

New Online Database

Staff created an online database of technical, scientific and land use documents pertaining to Rouge Park and the Rouge River Watershed accessible through www.rougepark.com.

Toronto Waterfront

Supported Waterfront Revitalization

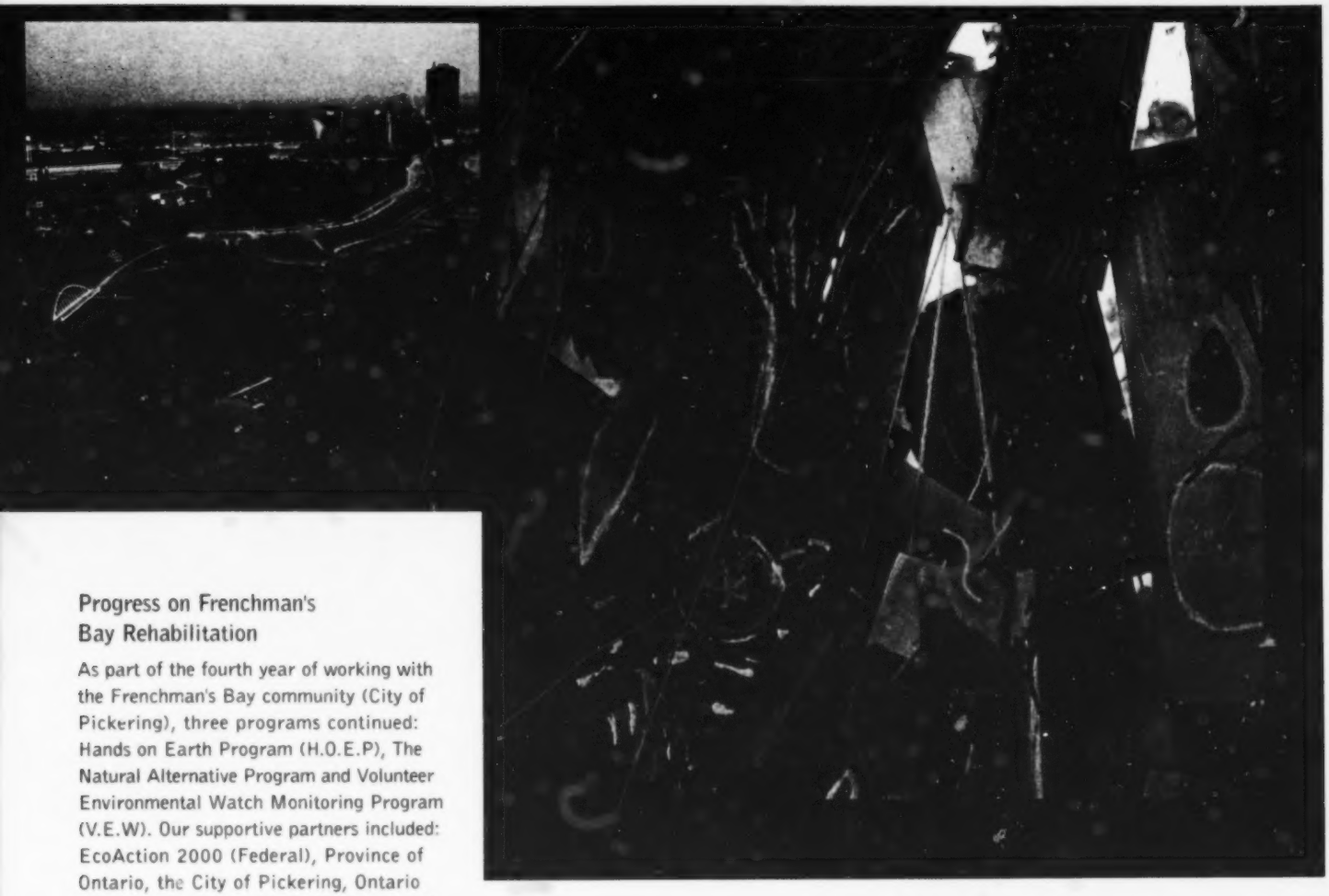
TRCA provided input, data and recommendations to the Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation's (TWRC) Development Plan and Business Strategy and the City of Toronto's Central Waterfront Plan, Making Waves. TWRC allocated $25 million for strategic projects outside the Central Waterfront, with priority given to support TRCA's Port Union and Mimico Linear Park Projects.

Planned Mimico Waterfront Park

Working with the community, a preferred concept plan was selected including over one kilometre of waterfront trail, public amenities at Norris Crescent and Superior Avenue Parkettes and enhancements to the Amos Waites Park. Preparation of an Environmental Assessment for this project was undertaken in 2002 with submission anticipated in 2003.

Port Union Waterfront Project Initiated

Construction of the Pedestrian Node began in September 2002 with capital support from the City of Toronto. Discussions continued on a $16 million funding partnership with the Government of Canada, the Province of Ontario and the City of Toronto through the Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation.



Left to right: *marsh plants; tree planting at Milne Park; mouth of Mimico Creek; Peel Children's Water Festival.*

Progress on Frenchman's Bay Rehabilitation

As part of the fourth year of working with the Frenchman's Bay community (City of Pickering), three programs continued: Hands on Earth Program (H.O.E.P), The Natural Alternative Program and Volunteer Environmental Watch Monitoring Program (V.E.W). Our supportive partners included: EcoAction 2000 (Federal), Province of Ontario, the City of Pickering, Ontario Power Generation and the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation. The Rotary Frenchman's Bay West Park Master Plan was completed and approved. An application to the Trillium Foundation was made for continuation of the Frenchman's Bay Rehabilitation Project over the next five years with our community partners.

Water Management

Planning for Source Protection

In conjunction with Conservation Ontario, TRCA staff developed a discussion paper on a "Source Protection Planning Framework for Ontario". This document will provide a foundation for the Provincial Advisory Committee's Source Protection Framework Document expected in 2003.

Goundwater Protection Planning

Staff worked on technical studies and program implementation to support phase two of the York-Peel-Durham-Toronto Groundwater Program. Products include

a common database structure, revised co-ordinates for over 5,000 wells, borehole drilling and geophysical logging, baseflow measurements at 293 locations, a 3-D conceptual geological model developed for TRCA watersheds and the first version of a 3-D groundwater flow model.

Developing a Water Management Program

Staff worked on developing an overall framework for TRCA technical programs to illustrate the context for the water management program and the broader Natural Heritage Program of which it is a part. The Duffins and Carruthers Integrated Watershed Plan and associated technical supporting studies and documentation will be used as a demonstration of the new level of technical study standards for future TRCA water management work.

Subwatersned Planning with Region of Peel

A Steering Committee for the Centreville Creek Subwatershed Plan in the Humber was formed. A public open house was held in November 2002 to seek public input on key issues and the proposed work program.

Stormwater Management

TRCA staff provided technical input to the development of the Toronto Wet Weather Flow Master Plan, which was endorsed by City of Toronto Council in 2002. TRCA staff are in discussion with city staff on appropriate roles for TRCA in the plan's implementation.

Flood Protection

In 2002, TRCA issued 21 flood messages under three categories consistent within the GTA conservation authorities. A total of 13 flood safety bulletins were issued, along with eight flood advisories, updates or cancellations.

Regional Watershed Monitoring

Monitored 150 Sites

A total of 150 sites were monitored for benthic invertebrates and algae. Forty-three of these sites were surveyed for fish communities and in-stream habitat. Enhancements to the water quality monitoring network in 2002 included the addition of six sampling sites in Duffins and one in Carruthers. This brings the current water quality network to 33 sample sites throughout TRCA's nine watersheds.

Analysis of the Data

Staff worked on an analysis and summary of the data collected in 2001 for inclusion in TRCA's watershed report card process and to share with municipal partners.

Reporting on Findings

Reports completed in 2002 included: A Summary of Fluvial Geomorphology in Etobicoke Creek, Mimico Creek and Humber River, a summary of the benthic invertebrate community in Toronto area watersheds and of the Toronto waterfront benthic community. Data from the 2001 monitoring program was provided to the Region of Peel in support of their 2002 State of the Environment Report.

Enhanced Partnerships

The monitoring network was enhanced in 2002 through the addition of several partnerships including two with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment — one in support of the Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Network and the other in support of the Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network. In addition, an algae study was undertaken with the University of Toronto.

Clockwise: *storm water erosion; Trumpeter swan cygnets; aqua lab water monitoring; Mill Pond.*

Above: *Trumpeter swan.*

Regional Biodiversity

UPPORT WILDLIFE HABITAT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.

2002 Overview

Our staff worked to protect the Oak Ridges Moraine by reviewing watershed plans for conformity with the new Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan and made recommendations for implementation to the province. We secured 38 hectares of environmentally important land through acquisitions and easements bringing the total amount of greenspace under TRCA ownership to almost 14,000 hectares.

With the help of our communities and partners we planted over 160,000 native trees and shrubs — exceeding our targets for the year by over 20 per cent. As part of the development of our Natural Heritage Program to sustain natural areas and wildlife, we inventoried 8,000 hectares of natural cover, completed a State of the Terrestrial Ecosystem Report and launched a Volunteer Terrestrial Heritage Monitoring Program to engage our communities.

Through our Development Services department we continued to advocate, with the development community and private landowners, to protect important natural heritage features and functions.

Oak Ridges Moraine

Conformity with New Conservation Plan

Staff reviewed Regional Official Plan Amendments for conformity with the Provincial Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan (ORMCP) and were involved in the interpretation of the plan as it relates to individual development applications. Review of the four ORM-related watersheds within TRCA's jurisdiction (Humber, Don, Rouge and Duffins) established that the watershed plans had commenced within the one-year time frame required by the plan.

Making Implementation Recommendations

Working with the Conservation Authorities Moraine Coalition (CAMC), TRCA participated in reviewing implementation guidelines such as landform conservation, significant woodlands identification and natural heritage evaluations. Through CAMC, input was provided to eight guideline documents prepared by the Ministry of Natural Resources and a regulation being prepared by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing requiring municipalities to prepare by-laws for tree preservation and site alteration. Staff also assisted the province with their ORM training sessions.

Assist in Groundwater Policy Formation

With CAMC, TRCA staff provided input to the formulation of groundwater policies and provided interpretation of significant features through the development review and the watershed planning process.

Funding a Stewardship Strategy

TRCA and CAMC, in conjunction with several partners, initiated applications for funding from the ORM Foundation to develop and implement a moraine-wide stewardship strategy. Staff also examined the feasibility of establishing an ORM Centre of Excellence at Seneca College.

Land Acquisition

Completed 22 Acquisitions

In 2002, 180 hectares were acquired. This included the 19 hectare Ingeborg Secord Estate property in the headwaters of the Duffins Creek. As well, Village Securities Ltd. and Tompion Limited properties together secured 20 hectares in the Rouge. A 17 hectare portion of the Carruthers Creek Marsh Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) was protected through acquisition and TRCA received a four hectare donation which represented a very important part of the Little Rouge Forest ESA. As well, a four hectare bequest from the Estate of Olive Bennett protected land in the Humber Watershed.

Secured Easements

Staff negotiated seven limited interest acquisitions totalling 20 hectares. This included the donation of two conservation easements totalling 18 hectares in the southern Uxbridge and north Pickering area of the ORM. A total of 213.5 hectares of conservation easements have been donated to TRCA in the Uxbridge area over the past two years.

Regeneration and Reforestation

Exceeded Planting Targets

TRCA planted 162,728 native trees and shrubs in 2002. Of this number, 56,000 reforestation seedlings were planted as part of the TRCA and Ontario Power Generation corporate partnership commitment through the "Reforestation for Biodiversity" program at the Nashville and Claireville properties.

Half Way to Five Year Goal!

For the period of 2001-2002, TRCA has exceeded its corporate planting target of 400,000 units and planted a two-year total of 466,428 native trees and shrubs. Our corporate planting target is one million trees and shrubs over a five-year period between 2001-2005.

Terrestrial Natural Heritage Strategy

Ecological Conditions Report

A draft report was completed in December on the baseline conditions of the Terrestrial Natural Heritage System. Release of the

State of the Terrestrial Ecosystem Report is anticipated in autumn 2003. This region wide report will introduce a new approach to protecting natural heritage, identify indicators and measures, set the stage for setting ecosystem targets and educate various audiences.

8,000 Hectares Inventoried

Staff inventoried 8,000 hectares of natural cover and completed digitizing 26,200 hectares of current and previously collected data, representing approximately 43 per cent of the natural system in the TRCA jurisdiction.

Launched Volunteer Monitoring Program

The Volunteer Terrestrial Monitoring Program was launched. Landowners across our region have agreed to allow for the long-term monitoring of parts of their land. Volunteers have been identified to monitor 48 sites across the jurisdiction. It is expected that more volunteers will join in 2003 to address an additional 12 remaining sites.

Developing Integrated Watershed Planning

Aspects of the Terrestrial Natural Heritage Program were considered along with water quality, water quantity, public use, cultural heritage and other information, to develop an integrated approach to watershed and subwatershed planning. The integration will demonstrate the benefits of the terrestrial ecosystem not only to terrestrial biodiversity but also to water management, public use and cultural heritage. This approach has been applied to the Duffins Watershed Strategy.

Development Services

Expanding Roles and Responsibilities

The number of permit applications increased by 22 per cent between 2001 and 2002 with a total of 448 permits issued. The total number of planning applications increased by 11 per cent between 2001 and 2002 with a total of 1,336 reviewed by staff. There were 53 Environmental Assessment Act submissions, an increase of 89 per cent from the 28 submissions in 2001. In addition, there were approximately 50 ongoing Environmental Assessments. Staff provided expertise at 10 Ontario Municipal Board hearings and responded to over 1,000 solicitor and realtor requests.

Oak Ridges Moraine (ORM) Initiatives

Development Services staff participated in a number of initiatives with our regional partners to assist in conforming to the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Act. These activities included the review and comment on three regional ORM conformity amendments and the development of watershed plan proposals to York, Peel and Durham to fulfill ORM requirements. Development Services staff also provided internal training sessions to assist in the review of development proposals on the moraine.

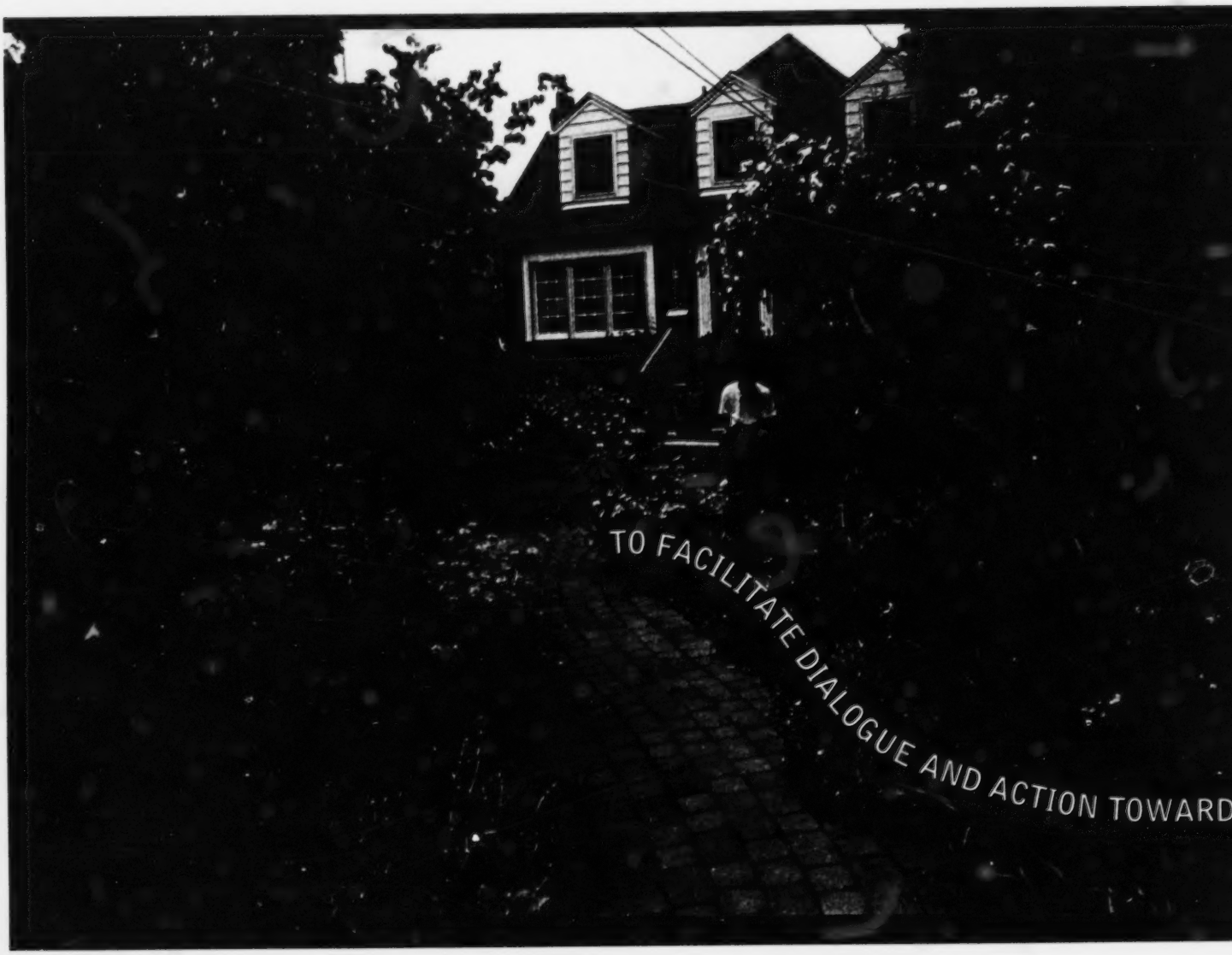
The Generic Regulation

In 2002, conservation authorities completed a draft Generic Regulation for Fill Construction and Alteration to Watercourses and Wetlands. In anticipation of provincial approval, staff are involved in drafting and reviewing technical guidelines, including hearing guidelines, approval process guidelines and mapping guidelines. Staff also began to produce updated draft fill line mapping. In 2002, 100 draft maps were completed for parts of the Rouge River and Humber River watersheds.

External Partnerships

Staff participated in a number of external initiatives including assisting the City of Toronto in developing Toronto's ravine by-law and supporting the Town of Markham in applying an innovative approach to planning Markham Town Centre.

Left to right: *Oak Ridges Moraine; reforestation; development services; Cold Creek Conservation Area.*



Above: *yard naturalization.*

Sustainable Communities

SUSTAINABLE LIVING THAT IMPROVES THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR EVERYONE.

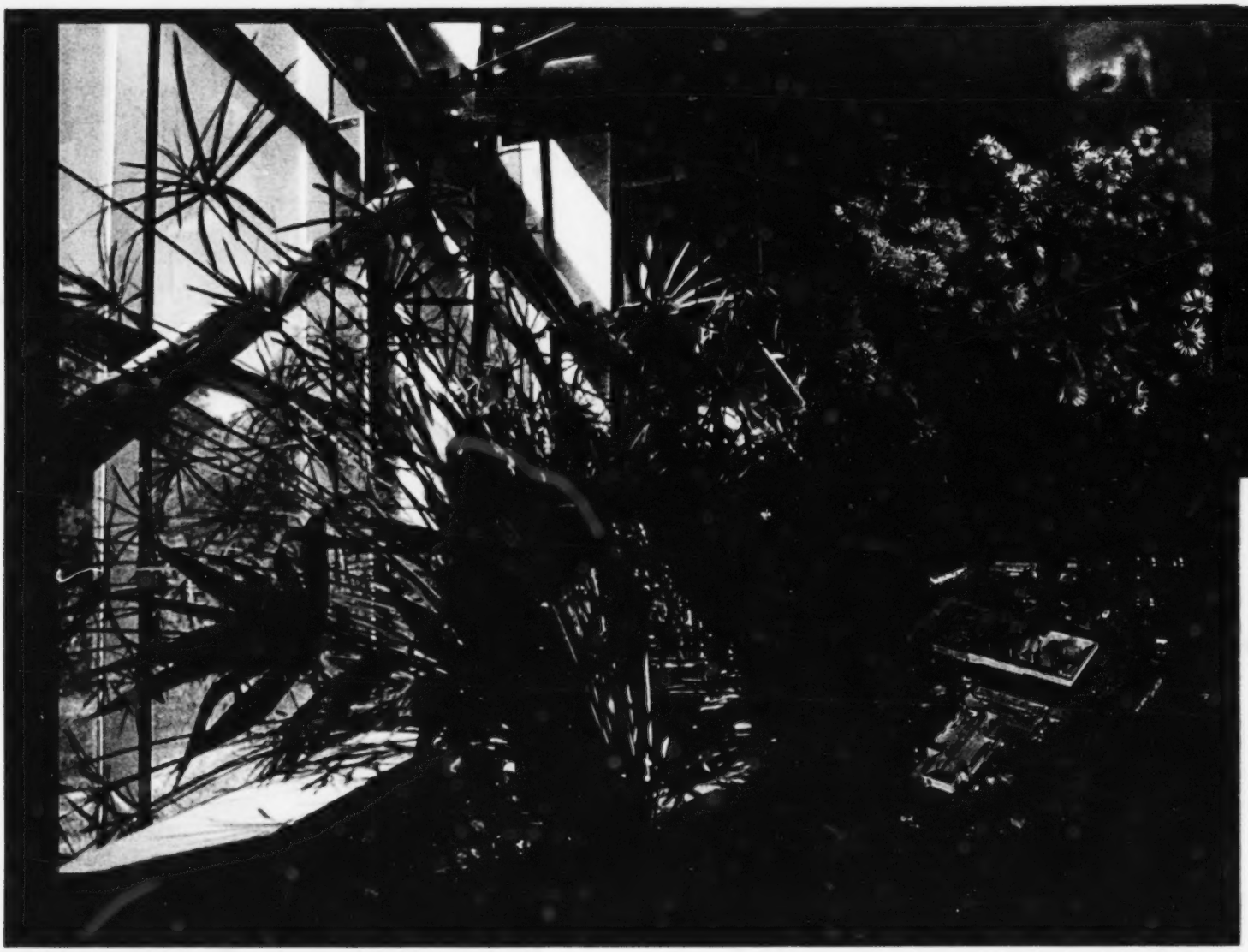
2002 Overview

TRCA is committed to transforming the Toronto region into one of the most sustainable communities in the world. In 2002, we adopted the Teaching and Learning for a Sustainable Future (UNESCO) Program to provide public education, outreach and employee training.

In our efforts to develop The Centre for Sustainable Living we consulted with local leadership to test the viability of our vision and investigate partnerships in the area surrounding the Kortright Centre and beyond.

We developed programs for our field centres that measure ecological footprint and sustainable lifestyle practices including pledge formats and commitments to personal environmental projects.

We expanded our environmental and nature education outreach programs including Watershed on Wheels and Conservation Seminars to engage local communities in enhancing natural areas, resources and wildlife. Reaching new Canadians and multicultural groups was a specific goal. Strengthening our programs at our conservation areas increased public attendance.



Left to right: *The Living City Centre at Kortright; Earth Rangers facility construction (bot.); Monarch butterflies on asters (top); Lincoln Alexander school naturalization; green roof at York University.*

The Living City Centre at Kortright

Partnership and Concept Development

During 2002, consultation took place with the City of Vaughan, local developers, utilities and the public and Catholic school boards to test the viability of our vision and investigate partnerships for sustainable development in the area surrounding Kortright and beyond.

Structural Assessment Completed

A structural assessment of Kortright's existing visitor centre was completed. Upgrades to the current facility to be energy efficient, highly functional and a demonstration of sustainability will be phased in over the next two years.

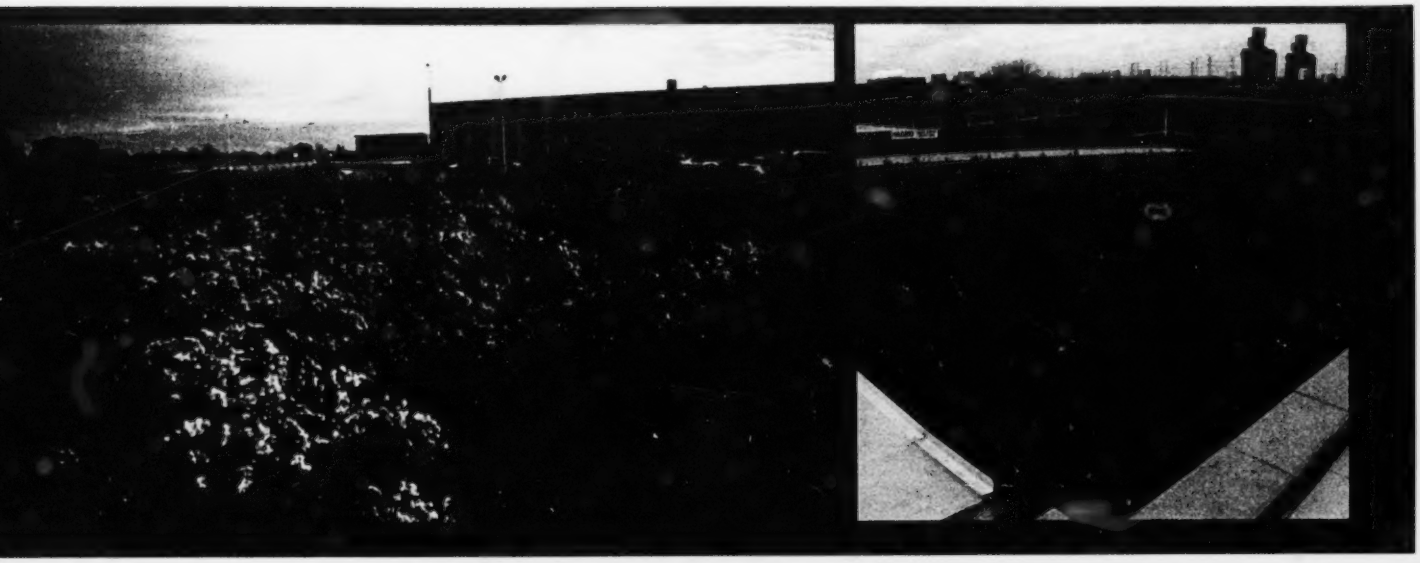
Earth Rangers Centre Under Construction

Construction of the Earth Rangers Centre, the world's most advanced education, wildlife rehabilitation and research centre began on site in 2002. The building incorporates leading-edge sustainable technologies for energy and water management.

Sustainability Partnerships

Sustainability Roundtable

TRCA understands that sustainability requires rethinking the processes and foundations of



everyday life to arrive at integrated, long-term solutions to today's environmental challenges. Through our membership on the City of Toronto's Sustainability Roundtable in 2002 we have been able to contribute to this process. The governance, decision-making, financial, measurement and education tools developed by the roundtable continue to advance sustainability thinking in the GTA.

Cities as Sustainable Ecosystems

In 2002, TRCA hosted an International Workshop on Cities as Sustainable Ecosystems, in partnership with United Nations Environment Programme/ International Environment Technology Centre (UNEP/IETC) and Environment Canada. Over 30 representatives working on sustainable cities initiatives around the world gathered at the Boyd Field Centre to develop the concept of cities as sustainable ecosystems.

The ideas that emerged from this meeting contributed to the Melbourne Principles for Sustainable Cities, which provide a simple set of statements on how a sustainable city would function.

Advising Urban Task Force

TRCA advised the Prime Minister's Caucus Task Force Urban Issues that sufficient funding was required to ensure the protection of "green infrastructure" and support stewardship practices. The Living City was recommended as a framework for enabling urban partnerships to provide a high quality of life while enhancing the environment.

Smart Growth

TRCA continued to provide advice to the provincial government's Ontario Smart Growth Panel, which will counsel the government in ways to sustain a strong economy, build strong communities and promote a healthy environment. In recognition that transportation and urban form are interwoven issues, TRCA took part in discussions with the Ministry of Transportation in Ontario on its draft Strategic Transportation Directions, in support of smart growth and sustainable transportation.

Green Roof Development

TRCA, as the leader of the Green Roof Systems Consortium (Seneca College, York University, Ryerson University and Guelph University) have installed an internet based monitoring system to monitor the stormwater benefits of the existing rooftop garden at York University. The information collected from this site and others will be used in a modelling exercise to quantify the stormwater benefits of green roofs at a subwatershed and watershed scale. It will also contribute to the verification of this sustainable technology as a model example for living cities.

Endorsed Earth Charter

The Earth Charter is an international declaration of the fundamental principles to create a just, sustainable and peaceful global society in the 21st century. The charter was developed over a period of 10 years with the most international public consultation of any UN document. For TRCA, the Earth Charter provides a broad conception of sustainable development and sustainable living. Public understanding of its principles and values is essential for change towards sustainability.

Educational Programming

Teaching and Learning for Sustainable Living

Since 2000, a global consensus has emerged that education should play a key role in resolving the complex global issues we face. Education for sustainable development focuses on giving citizens the skills, perspectives, values and knowledge to live sustainably in their community. In 2002, TRCA adopted the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) Teaching and Learning for a Sustainable Future Program as a framework for the creation of a locally relevant learning for sustainable living program. Our learning program will provide employee training and public education and outreach for a sustainable future.

Climate Change Curriculum Development

In partnership with the York Environmental Education Consortium (eight GTA school boards and York University) and Learning for a Sustainable Future, TRCA received funding to develop a province-wide Global Climate Change Curriculum with associated resources.

Geological History Education

TRCA, in partnership with the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Ministry of Science and Technology, the University of Toronto and Environment Canada completed the Toronto Geoscape Poster to teach the geological history of the GTA and its land forms, including the rivers and valleys. The poster will be launched in 2003 with the development of a Web site and teaching aids to follow.

Residential Field Centres

Infrastructure and Marketing Improvements

New staff, infrastructure improvements and marketing initiatives contributed to the vibrant activities surrounding the residential field centres.

High Customer Satisfaction

Weekday school attendance in 2002 was 6,400 visitors and our weekend and summer client bookings remained strong at 2,500 and 400 respectively. Our customer satisfaction rating remained high at 4.7 out of five!

Lake St. George Field Centre

New Construction and Equipment

New balconies have been built for Bond and Snively dorms and new equipment was reinvested into the lake ecology program.

New Summer Initiative

The York Region Summer Institute Program, a five day camp for school children of the neighboring Lake Wilcox community, was a successful new summer initiative.

Strong Partner Support

Partnerships with the York Region District School Board and the Toronto Catholic District School Board continue to offer strong support.

Claremont Field Centre

New Additions and Upgrades

A new deck with wheelchair access was added to the front entrance, and dormitory washrooms have been completely upgraded and remodelled.

Strong Partner Support

The facility continued to receive strong support from Durham Region District School Board.

Albion Hills Field Centre

Expanded Husky Partnership

Now in it's sixth year, our partnership with Husky Injection Moldings Inc. has expanded to financially support a total of 21 class visits with grade six students from the Bolton Community.

Celebrating Strong Partnerships

2002 was the 10 year anniversary of our summer partnership with Choirs Ontario, and The Toronto Community Housing Corporation enjoyed a full five week booking for it's fourth year.

Outreach

WOW Programs Sold Out

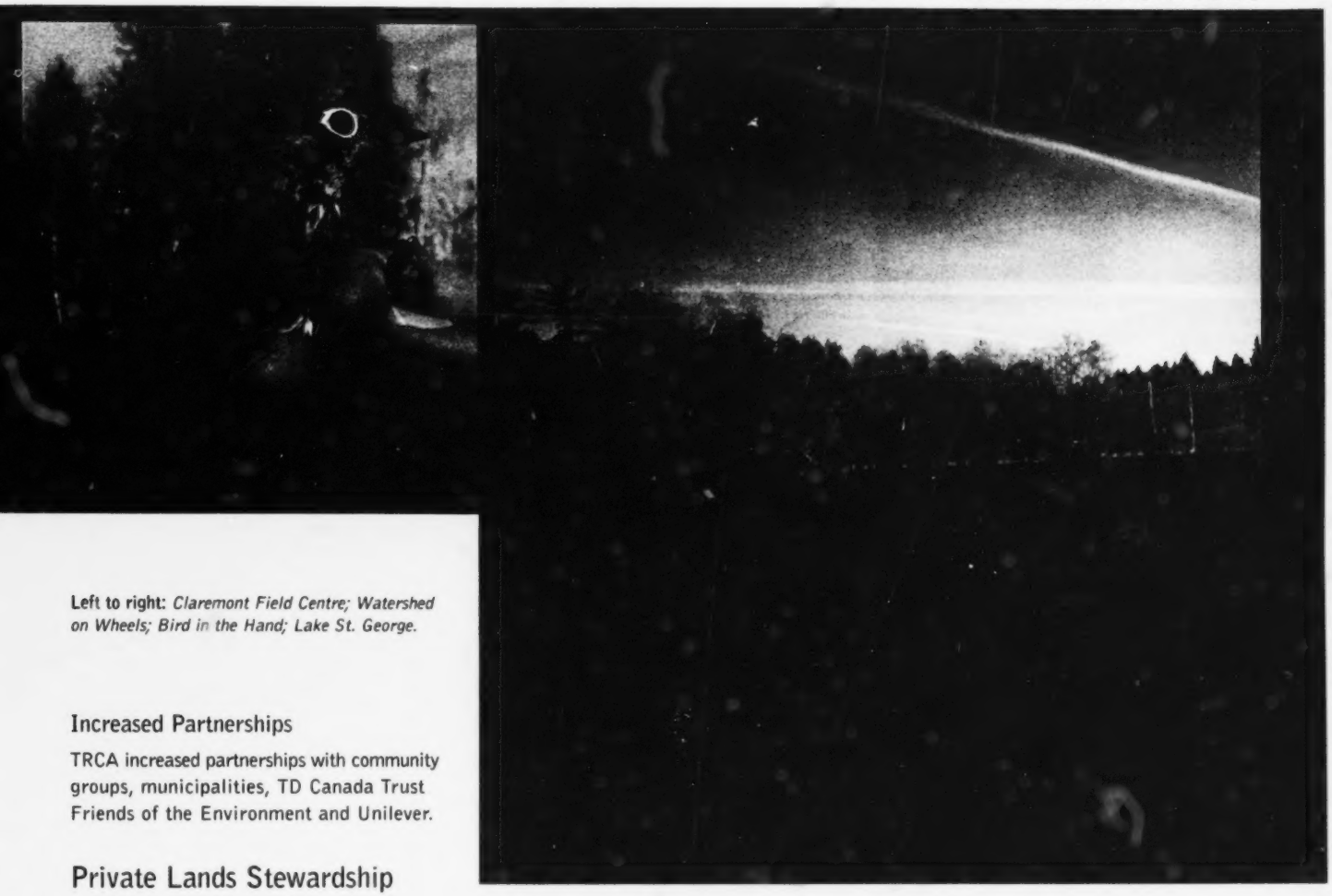
TRCA's Watershed on Wheels program maintained its sold out performance in 2002 with bookings from more than 300 schools and community groups. An estimated 9,000 youths received this quality curriculum-based series of themed programs delivered in their schools and community facilities.

Hands-On Conservation Seminars

Over 900 participants attended 25 conservation seminars (Hoot and Howl, Bird in the Hand, Don't Step on the Flowers, Deer in the City and Healthy Yards) celebrating the natural heritage of our conservation areas and many of our multi-stakeholder restoration projects located throughout TRCA's watersheds.

A Six Legged Perspective

More than 4,000 visitors from around the world experienced the wonders of insects in our natural environment through TRCA's Insectmania Program at the Ontario Science Centre. Overcoming language barriers through animation and hands-on experiences, made this series of events very successful in changing peoples attitudes and perspectives on these six legged creatures.



Left to right: *Claremont Field Centre; Watershed on Wheels; Bird in the Hand; Lake St. George.*

Increased Partnerships

TRCA increased partnerships with community groups, municipalities, TD Canada Trust Friends of the Environment and Unilever.

Private Lands Stewardship

Engaging Private Landowners

Private Lands Stewardship Programs engaged more than 150 private landowners in implementing a variety of agricultural Best Management Practices, reforesting marginal lands, improving existing woodlots, wetlands and riparian buffers and installing habitat features like wood duck boxes on their lands.

Developed Environmental Farm Plans

Staff initiated a long term agricultural land management project for TRCA leased farm lands through the development of 30 Environmental Farm Plans to demonstrate environmentally responsible land management practices.

Increased Partnerships

TRCA increased partnerships with municipalities, agricultural organizations and businesses, Wetland Habitat Fund, Rouge Park, Ducks Unlimited Canada and Great Lakes Sustainability Fund.

Community Stewardship

Bartley Smith Stewardship

Staff initiated a five year business and community outreach initiative in the Bartley Smith Greenway in partnership with the Trillium Foundation, City of Vaughan and The Vaughan Chamber of Commerce.

Increased Volunteer Activity

Waterfront and watershed community environmental stewardship programs planted 6,500 native trees and shrubs, installed 75 habitat features and received support from over 4,500 volunteers.

Engaging New Canadians

The Multicultural Environmental Stewardship Program engaged more than 4,000 new Canadians in habitat restoration projects and environmental education programs to share and celebrate the natural heritage of our Living City.

Increased Partnerships

TRCA increased partnerships with a variety of community and multicultural groups, settlement agencies, and the Toronto Raptors, Trillium Foundation and EcoACTION Community Funding Program.

Kortright Centre for Conservation

Increased School Visits

School visitors increased by seven per cent to approximately 95,000. Overall visitorship was approximately 141,000, slightly lower than 2001.

Successful Programs and Events

Thousands of children attended wizardry workshops inspired by the Harry Potter stories to engage young people with nature. Energy workshops participation increased and many were sold out weeks in advance.

Voted Best Conservation Area

The readers of City Parent Magazine voted Kortright as the best conservation area in the region and staff won an award for Best Education Display at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair.

Black Creek Pioneer Village

Over 155,000 Visitors

In 2002, Black Creek Pioneer Village offered a variety of programs, exhibits, demonstrations, theme months and 10 special events, including participation in Toronto's popular Doors Open Program.

Major Building Restorations and Projects

Major restoration work was completed on the Stong Grain Barn and the Print Shop, as well as many smaller projects to improve their overall state. Special projects such as the installation of the Burwick Garden and Biblical Garden were undertaken.

Volunteer Support

Volunteers contributed over 14,000 hours of service for special events, costume creation, research, collections management and special projects.

Conservation Areas

Increased Attendance

Attendance to conservation areas increased almost 20 per cent between 2001 and 2002. Total attendance was just under 500,000.

Peel Children's Water Festival

The 7th Annual Peel Children's Water Festival was held for the first time at Heart Lake. Over 5,000 students participated in activities and 1,000 people attended on the public day.

Excellent Swimming and Camping Season

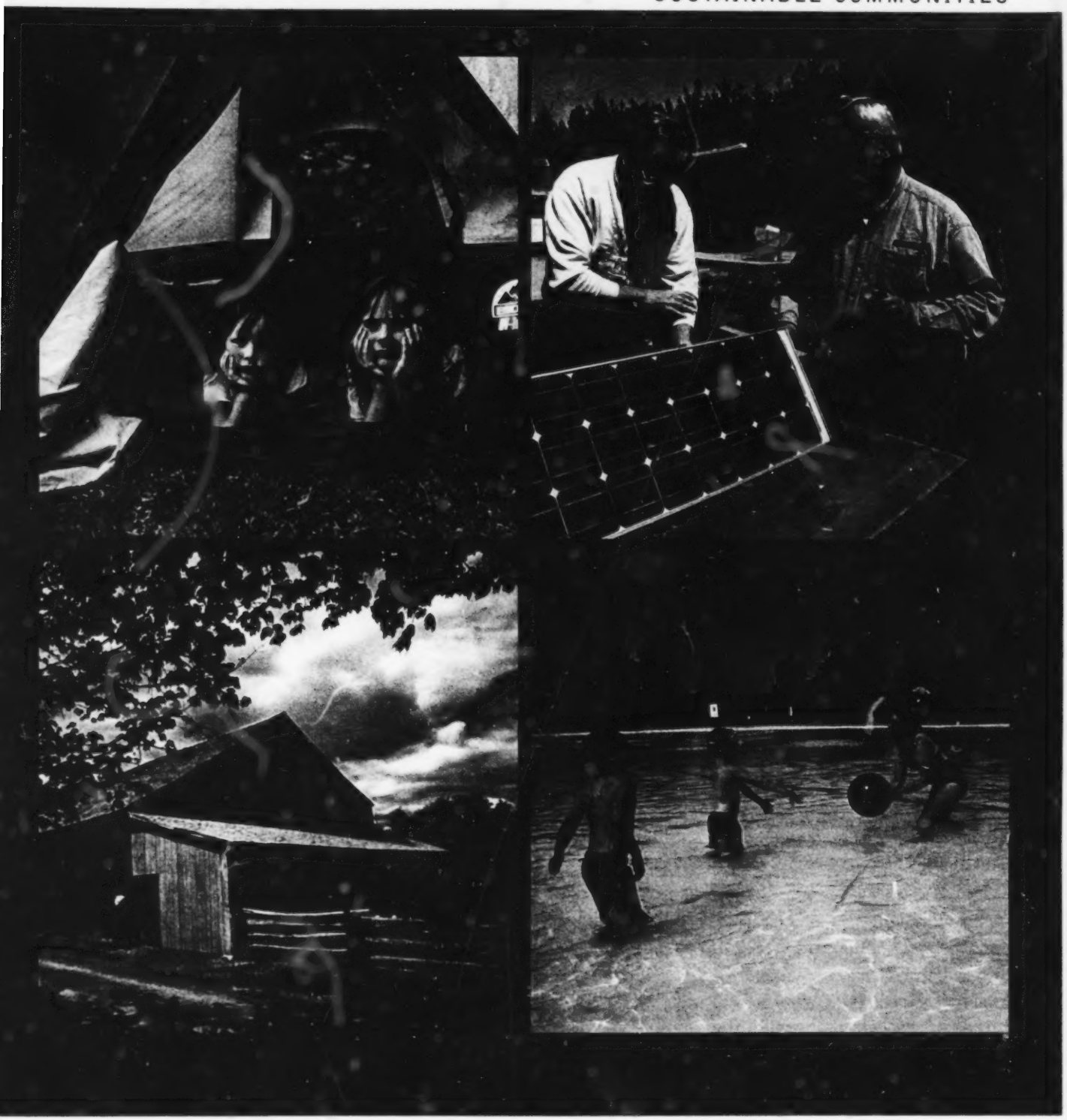
Petticoat Creek Pool broke all previous attendance records due to a very hot summer. Overall camping revenues increased in 2002. The total number of campers visiting Indian Line increased by approximately 13 per cent (76,621 in 2001; 86,287 in 2002).

Record Cycling Participation

The 24 Hours of Summer Solstice Mountain Bike Race at Albion Hills had a record 300 teams participating.

Huge Canada Day Turnout

Canada Day at Albion Hills, a joint event held with the Town of Caledon, hosted 9,000 people.



Clockwise: *camping at Albion Hills Campground; Kortright Energy Workshop; swimming at Petticoat Creek pool; barn restoration at Black Creek Pioneer Village.*

Above: *tree lined road, Brampton.*

Business Excellence

2002 Financial Overview

Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA) approved the 2002 Business Plan, furthering the commitment to The Living City and continuing the important work of TRCA. The Strategic Plan process was initiated and preparation of the 2003-2007 Business Plan framework was completed.

Operating expenditures for the year totalled $21.6 million, about $1.75 million less than budgeted because expected expenditures for projects such as the transfer of the Ontario Realty Corporation Rouge lands were not completed, and certain items were deferred in anticipation of less Conservation Foundation funding.

Excellent summer weather for the campgrounds and water facilities at the conservation areas and additional education and film revenue at Black Creek Pioneer Village enabled the public use facilities to exceed revenue budgets. Operating revenues totalled approximately $10.7 million in 2002. The Conservation Foundation contributed approximately $1.4 million through its Living City Campaign. Our municipal partners continue to provide financial support by way of the general levy, which amounted to $7.9 million. Operating revenues in excess of budget as noted above, unbudgeted property tax rebates and modest interest earnings in excess of budget contributed to the achievement of an operating surplus of $62.5 thousand.

Capital expenditures totalled $15.2 million, significantly less than budgeted because projects experienced construction or approval delays including the Humber Bay Shores Expropriation Settlement, the Port Union Project and the Lower Don Project. TRCA spent $4.8 million for greenspace securement and acquisition, about $2.2 million for Toronto and Durham waterfront and shoreline regeneration projects, $1.2 million for erosion control works, $2.1 million for York, Peel and Toronto Remedial Action Plans and about $0.6 million to continue the Black Creek Pioneer Village restoration.

The Conservation Foundation contributed $0.4 million to various capital projects, $7.4 million came from various sources and $7.7 million of funding from TRCA's municipal partners was utilized. A capital surplus of $0.3 million was achieved primarily as a result of unanticipated sales tax rebates.

The surplus achieved was applied to significantly reduce TRCA's cumulative deficit which at the end of 2002 totalled about $0.75 million. The 2003-2007 Business Plan provides for phased elimination of the deficit.

EXPENDITURES

Conservation Land Management	32%
Watershed Health	31%
Conservation and Education Programs	26%
Corporate Services and Other	11%

REVENUE

Municipal Funding	50%
Fees, Sales, Rentals and Contract Services	29%
All Other Sources	8%
Provincial Funding	8%
Conservation Foundation	5%
Federal Funding	1%

KPMG

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AUDITORS' REPORT ON SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

To the Members of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

The accompanying summarized statements of financial position and financial activities and deficit are derived from the complete financial statements of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority as at December 31, 2002 and for the year then ended on which we expressed an opinion without reservation in our report dated March 7, 2003. The fair summarization of the complete financial statements is the responsibility of management. Our responsibility, in accordance with the applicable Assurance Guideline of The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, is to report on the summarized financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements fairly summarize, in all material respects, the related complete financial statements in accordance with the criteria described in the Guideline referred to above.

These summarized financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes. For more information on the Authority's financial position and results of financial activities and cash flows, reference should be made to the related complete financial statements.

KPMG LLP

Chartered Accountants

Toronto, Canada
March 7, 2003

TORONTO AND REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

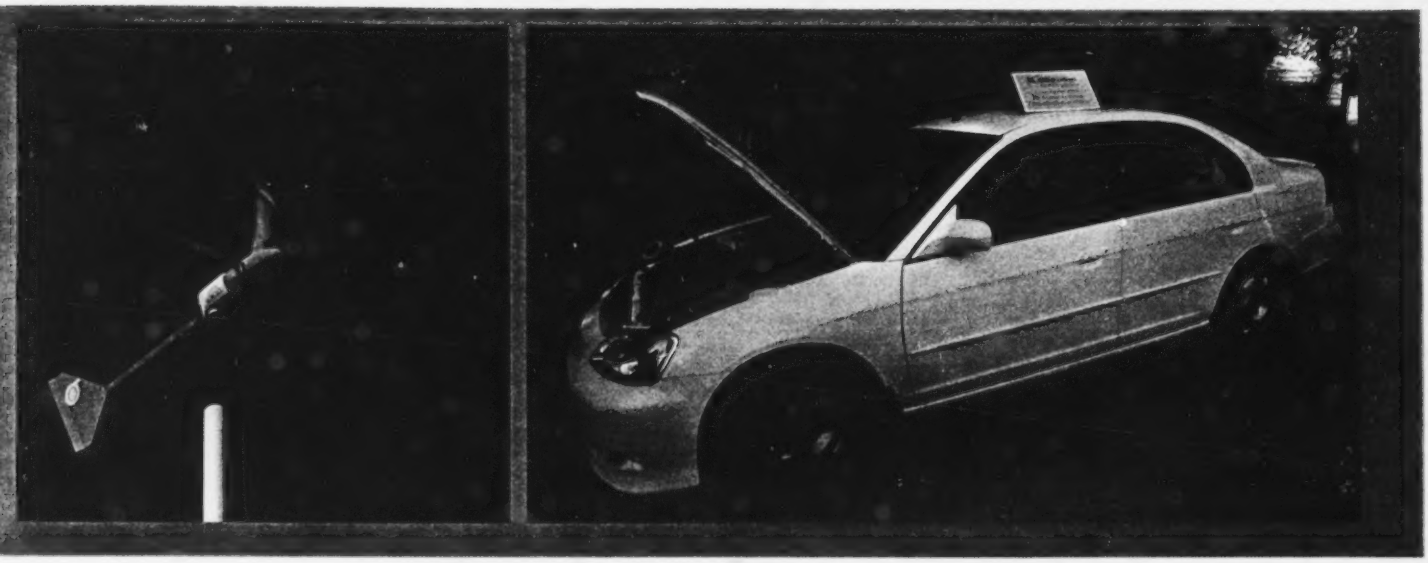
Summarized Statement of Financial Activities and Deficit
Year ended December 31, 2002, with comparative figures for 2001

	2002 Budget	2002 Actual	2001 Actual
Expenditures:			
Watershed management and health monitoring	$ 6,925,500	$ 5,347,803	$ 3,274,258
Environmental advisory services	1,634,900	1,678,053	1,737,176
Watershed stewardship	6,708,000	4,658,695	4,476,977
Conservation land management, development and acquisition	14,519,660	12,032,995	10,445,138
Conservation and education programming	10,031,400	9,760,898	9,850,377
Corporate services	4,294,700	3,757,400	3,398,359
Vehicle and equipment, net of usage charged	-	38,139	36,032
Increase in vacation pay and sick leave entitlements	-	192,612	32,640
	44,114,160	37,466,595	33,250,957
Revenue:			
Municipal:			
Levies	20,641,660	15,597,599	13,531,787
Other	1,775,600	3,152,998	2,328,732
Government grants:			
MNR transfer payments	845,800	845,753	845,753
Provincial - other	2,433,200	2,331,100	533,718
Federal	797,000	495,698	480,549
Authority generated:			
User fees, sales and admissions	8,430,400	8,346,873	8,770,187
Contract services	1,668,600	977,639	760,292
General	250,000	303,447	326,717
Proceeds from sale of properties	350,000	140,486	384,180
The Conservation Foundation of Greater Toronto	2,096,800	1,754,324	1,839,086
Donations and fundraising	1,973,000	1,203,543	1,893,529
Facility and property rentals	1,985,600	1,469,796	1,358,555
Canada Post Corporation agreement	47,700	10,194	176,890
Sales and property tax refunds	15,000	366,116	109,462
Sundry	743,800	806,295	498,916
	44,054,160	37,801,861	33,838,353
Excess of revenue over expenditures (expenditures over revenue) before increase in amounts to be funded in future periods	(60,000)	335,266	587,396
Increase in amounts to be funded in future periods	-	192,612	32,640
Appropriations from (to) reserves	260,000	(197,831)	(401,164)
	200,000	330,047	218,872
Deficit, beginning of year	(1,080,508)	(1,080,508)	(1,299,380)
Deficit, end of year	$ (880,508)	$ (750,461)	$ (1,080,508)

TORONTO AND REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Summarized Statement of Financial Position
December 31, 2002, with comparative figures for 2001

	2002	2001
Assets		
Financial assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 7,170,177	$ 6,418,364
Marketable securities	3,946,392	2,609,418
Accounts receivable	2,297,135	2,781,672
Inventory	569,236	538,604
	13,982,940	12,348,058
Other assets:		
Prepaid expenses	222,304	144,992
	$ 14,205,244	$ 12,493,050
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ 2,797,796	$ 2,821,748
Deferred revenue:		
Municipal levies	6,035,708	4,662,621
Capital and special projects	3,824,119	3,978,865
Vacation pay and sick leave entitlements	1,090,452	907,913
	13,748,075	12,371,147
Fund Balances		
Reserves	2,210,949	2,013,118
Deficit	(750,461)	(1,080,508)
Amounts to be funded in future periods	(1,003,319)	(810,707)
	457,169	121,903
	$ 14,205,244	$ 12,493,050



Left to right: *wind turbine at Kortright; hybrid gas-electric car.*

Corporate Sustainability

TRCA is committed to continually converting its facilities, operations and policies to reflect sustainability in every way. In 2002, we began this process with a few core initiatives:

Fleet Transition

TRCA is working to greatly reduce the emissions from the TRCA fleet of vehicles. In 2002, we purchased our first hybrid gas-electric car. Hybrid vehicles recharge as you drive, get double the miles per gallon of gas than cars on the road now and can be refuelled at any gas station. TRCA continued to use natural gas as a transit fuel as clean fuel technologies evolve.

Green Electricity

In 2002, TRCA created a general policy commitment to steadily increase our use of "green" electricity at all of our facilities. As a result of our commitment to purchase at least 10 per cent of our electricity as "green electricity", we received an award of recognition from Friends of the Earth Canada. TRCA has been a leader in renewable energy since 1989 when we began our renewable energy program at the Kortright Centre.

Greening Head Office

In 2002, we began upgrading our head office in Downsview with some much needed repairs. At every step of the way we reviewed more sustainable options and have selected the most environmentally friendly carpeting, low VOC paint and a more energy efficient HVAC system that includes an indoor air biofilter using a living ecosystem.

Environmental Management System (EMS)

Staff began planning for the launch of the Environmental Management System (EMS) in 2002. This included hiring a full-time coordinator, conducting extensive research on best management practices and setting almost 100 short and long-term goals to reduce corporate environmental impact in land management, quality of land holdings, energy use, transportation, water use, waste management and procurement.

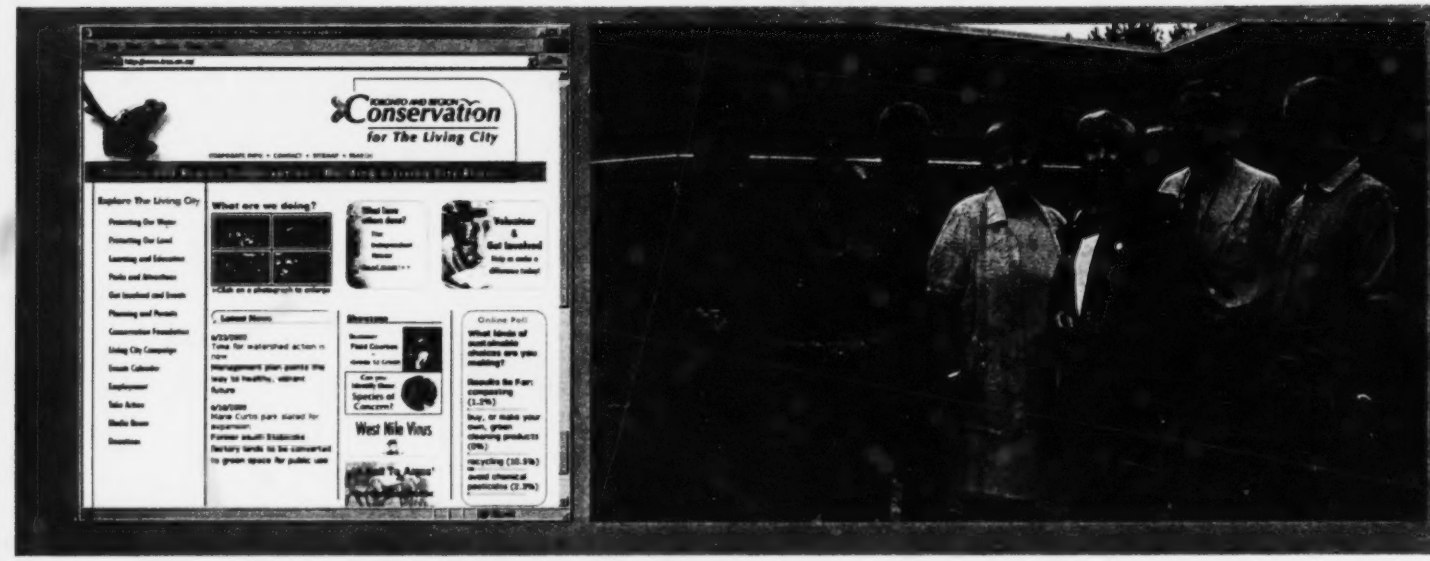
Creating a Culture of Sustainability

TRCA encourages its employees to follow an ethic of sustainable living. In 2002, TRCA became a founding member of the Black Creek Regional Transportation Management Association to support our staff in trip reduction. TRCA launched its Employee Energy Efficiency Program in partnership with the city of Toronto to offer incentives for home energy conservation to employees.

Property

Earth Rangers Partnership

The construction of the Earth Rangers Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre at Kortright began in the fall and is scheduled to open in the fall of 2003.



Community Safety Village Partnership

Staff have completed negotiations for a lease with the Community Safety Village of York Region to lease approximately six acres in Bruce's Mill Conservation Area for the construction and operation of a Safety Village to teach children safety skills. The facility is scheduled to open in the fall of 2003.

Maintaining 2,500 Properties

Staff continued to monitor and add lands to management agreements with the municipalities as part of the management of more than 2,500 properties purchased to date. Staff completed the granting of one permanent easement for municipal servicing.

Improving Environmental Management

Property staff continued to manage 57 rental homes, 20 farm rentals, approximately 15 lease agreements and field school agreements. These include Wild Water Kingdom, Claireville Ranch, and the McMichael Canadian Art Collection. Farm stewardship plans are being implemented for our farm leases in keeping with The Living City objectives.

Marketing and Communications

Increased Production Efficiency

In 2002, staff designed, wrote and edited more than 125 print and Web projects, increasing production by 100 per cent from the previous year.

Increased Web Visits

Major improvements to the Web site and increased promotion raised Web site visits by 50 per cent.

Increasing Research Capacity

In order to more effectively reach target audiences, staff initiated market research on communication vehicles, audience interests and environmental issues. A market research section will be a permanent component of the Annual Corporate Communications Plan.

Coordinated Over 200 Events

Staff planned, coordinated and promoted more than 200 events and initiated a strategy to increase event effectiveness.

The Conservation Foundation

Over $6 Million Raised to Date

With the support of many private sector donors, The Conservation Foundation raised $1.6 million in 2002 through The Living City Campaign. To date, over $6 million has been raised from the private sector to support The Living City programs.

Major Supporters

Ongoing major donors in 2002 included The Schad Foundation, Unilever Canada Foundation and The Salamander Foundation. New donors included The Greater Toronto Airport Authority and Tetra Pak Canada Inc.

New Program Definitions

To meet The Living City objectives, TRCA, along with The Conservation Foundation, has developed seven program areas that donors can support. These include River Partners, Natural Area Network, Lands for The Living City, Conservation Journeys, Learning for Sustainable Living, The Living City Centre and the Environmental Science Program.

Recognition Awards

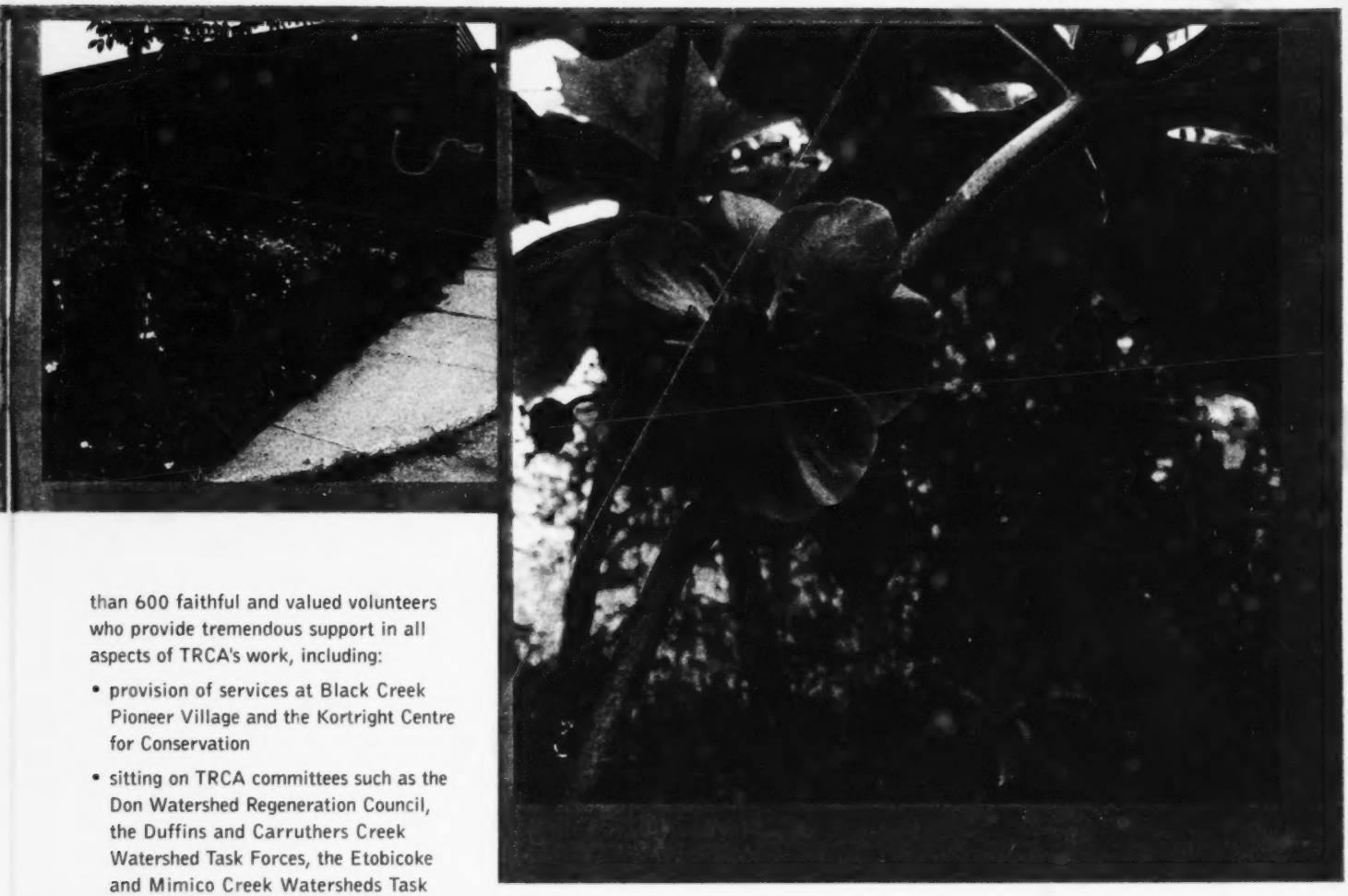
The Recognition Awards Program, adopted in 1976, is a way of paying tribute to those recognized as having made significant contributions to the goals and objectives of TRCA. There are two award categories: Honour Roll Awards and Service Recognition Awards.

Honour Roll Awards

On Tuesday, June 18, 2002, a special "Supporter Recognition Evening" was held at Black Creek Pioneer Village, and the following Honour Roll Awards were presented:

- The Honourable Henry N. R. Jackman
- Jane Jacobs
- Etobicoke and Mimico Creek Watersheds Task Force
- Friends of Claireville
- Glen Major Conservation Easement Donors

Also on this special occasion, Vice Chair Jim McMaster paid tribute to our more



Left to right: *TRCA Web site; board member service award recipients (from left to right) Mike Tzekas, Irene Jones, Cliff Gyles, Christine Cooper, Linda Pabst, John Adams and David Barrow; TRCA head office; mayapple.*

than 600 faithful and valued volunteers who provide tremendous support in all aspects of TRCA's work, including:

- provision of services at Black Creek Pioneer Village and the Kortright Centre for Conservation
- sitting on TRCA committees such as the Don Watershed Regeneration Council, the Duffins and Carruthers Creek Watershed Task Forces, the Etobicoke and Mimico Creek Watersheds Task Force and the Humber Watershed Alliance.

Service Recognition Awards

The Service Recognition Awards were created to recognize TRCA, Advisory Board and Foundation Directors, as well as staff and volunteers, on an annual basis. The awards are based on years of service — three, six and 10 years for members and 10, 15 and 25 years for staff.

In 2002, 25 silver logo pins, seven lifetime passes, five gold logo pins and three gold medallions were presented.

Recognition and Employee Suggestion Award Sub-Committee

Chair: Lorna Bissell
Members: Irene Jones and Jim McMaster

TORONTO AND REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES AND MEMBERS 2002

ADJALA-TOSORONTIO & MONO TOWNSHIPS

A. Ketchum

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK

D. Barrow
M. Di Biase *
B. O'Donnell
L. Pabst
F. Scarpitti

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF DURHAM

Dave Ryan
J. McMaster *
G. L. O'Connor *

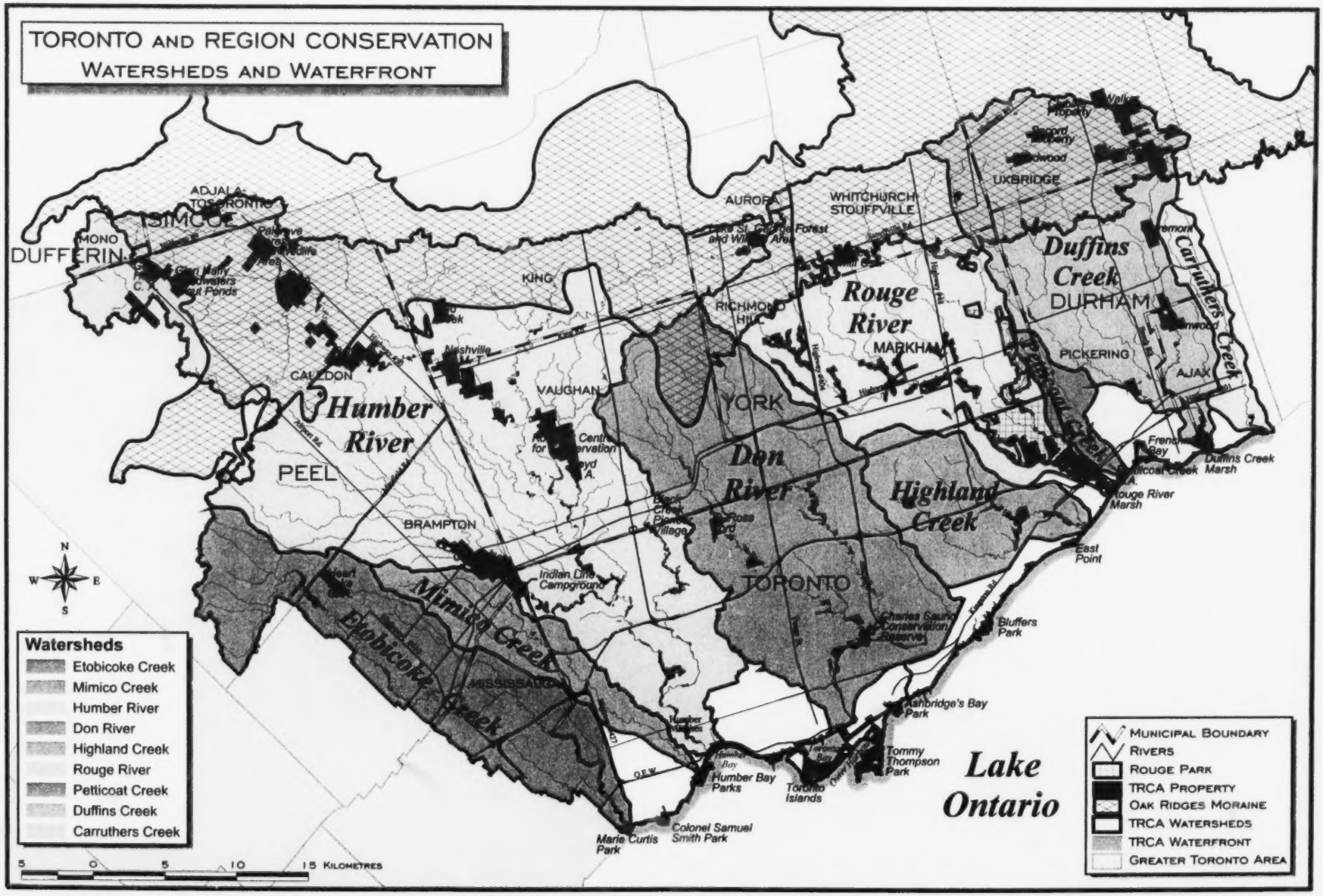
THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL

L. Bissell *
S. DiMarco
C. Gyles
M. Prentice
I. Sinclair

CITY OF TORONTO

M. Augimeri *
B. Balkissoon
I. Bossons
R. Cho
F. Ford
S. Hall
I. Jones *
P. McConnell
P. Milczyn
R. Moeser *
D. O'Brien (Chair) *
J. Pantalone
S. Shaw
K.E. Wells

* Executive Committee Members


TORONTO AND REGION CONSERVATION
WATERSHEDS AND WATERFRONT
Watersheds
Etobicoke Creek
Mimico Creek
Humber River
Don River
Highland Creek
Rouge River
Petticoat Creek
Duffins Creek
Carruthers Creek
5 0 5 10 15 KILOMETRES
MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY
RIVERS
ROUGE PARK
TRCA PROPERTY
OAK RIDGES MORAINE
TRCA WATERSHEDS
TRCA WATERFRONT
GREATER TORONTO AREA
Lake Ontario
Humber River
Don River
Highland Creek
Rouge River
Duffins Creek
Carruthers Creek
Mimico Creek
Etobicoke Creek
TORONTO
YORK
PEEL
DURHAM
DUFFERIN
SIMCOE
KING
VAUGHAN
BRAMPTON
MISSISSAUGA
CALEDON
MARKHAM
RICHMOND HILL
AURORA
WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE
UXBRIDGE
PICKERING
AJAX
Bluffers Park
Tommy Thompson Park
Humber Bay Parks
Toronto Islands
Marie Curtis Park
Colonel Samuel Smith Park
Ashbridge's Bay Park
East Point
Rouge River Marsh
Duffins Creek Marsh
Indian Line Campground
Charles Sauriol Conservation Reserve
Nashville
Glen Haffy Conservation Area
Palgrave Forest and Wildlife Area
Claireville Conservation Area
Albion Hills Conservation Area
Boyd Conservation Area
Petticoat Creek
Frenchman's Bay
Walker Property
Sheard Property
Woodwood
Carruthers Creek
Highway 400
Highway 404
Highway 407
Highway 427
Highway 401
Highway 409
QEW
Highway 27
Highway 50
Highway 7
Highway 48
Highway 12
Highway 2A
Highway 7A
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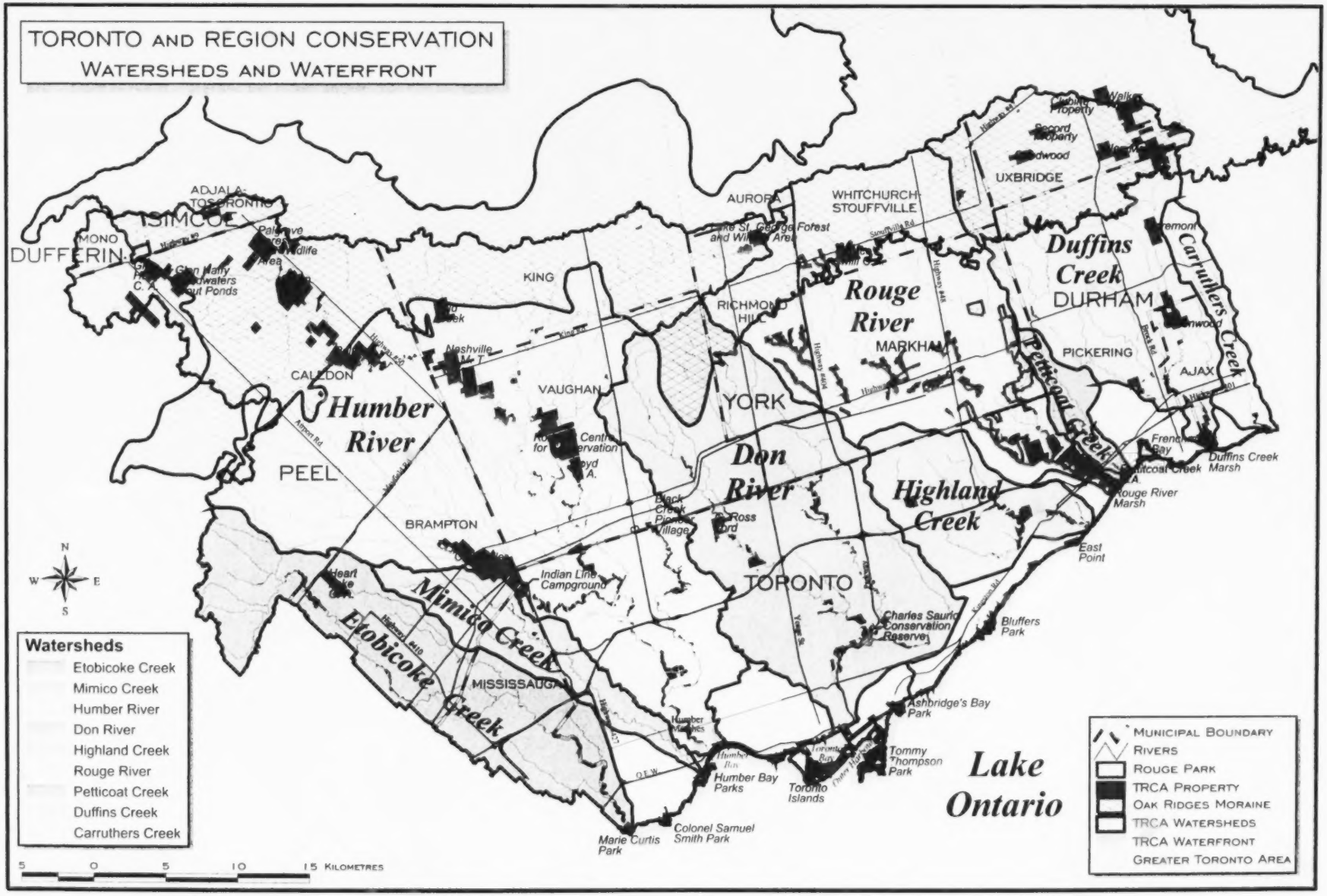
Highway 50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Colonel Samuel Smith Park
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Cover: *Toronto islands, City of Toronto skyline; Monarch butterfly.*

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